

Appl. No. 09/488,469
Amdt. Dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 7, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 81752.0023
Customer No. 26021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25 were pending in the Application. By this Amendment, the Specification and the Drawings are being amended, and Claim 13 is being canceled.

Also, a Terminal Disclaimer is enclosed.

~~In Paragraph 4 on page 3 of the Office Action, the disclosure is objected to~~
because of certain misspellings. The misspelled word "mage" is said to occur on pages 3, 6 and 29. In response, Applicants are amending the appropriate paragraphs on those pages to correct the misspelled word.

On page 36, Applicants use the expression "CG-ROM" to designate a character generator ROM. Inasmuch as Applicants may be their own lexicographer, the expression "CG-ROM" is not a misspelling and correction thereof should not be necessary.

On page 60, "15B is" is not a misspelling inasmuch as it occurs within the phrase "the print image PBO shown in FIG. 15B is formed and printed". Accordingly, the word "is" refers to the print image PBO. No correction should be necessary.

Regarding the objections to the drawings in Paragraph 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, the reference to "CG-ROM" in FIG. 1 should be acceptable for the reasons explained above, so that no correction is needed. Regarding FIG. 3, a drawing amendment is proposed herein to correct the misspelled word "AUTMATIC".

Regarding Paragraph 6 on page 4 of the Office Action, the drawings are objected to for failing to show "dithering" in step S82, "dithering" in step S84 and "synthesize images" in step S85. To the extent that a more detailed disclosure of dithering and synthesizing is needed, then this is provided in the Figures of drawing which follow FIG. 4 and the description in connection therewith. However,

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for the sake of completeness, Applicants are enclosing a proposed Amendment to FIG. 4 which shows the step S82 as "DITHERING MAIN IMAGE", the step S84 as showing "DITHERING BACKGROUND IMAGE" and the step S85 as showing "SYNTHESIZE BACKGROUND AND FOREGROUND IMAGES". FIG. 4 of the drawings, as so amended, clearly shows the dithering and synthesizing steps as amended therein and particularly in view of the detailed showing and description which follows FIG. 4.

In Paragraph 7 on page 4 of the Office Action, the drawings are objected to because the step "S124" in FIG. 5 is not mentioned in the description, and the step "S86" in FIG. 4 is not mentioned in the description. However, a review of the Application shows that such steps are indeed mentioned. More specifically, "step S124" is recited in line 28 (sixth line from the bottom) of page 52, and "step S86" is referred to in line 33 (the last line) of page 52.

In Paragraph 8 which begins on page 4 of the Office Action, the drawings are objected to because "CPB01", "CPB02", "CPB03" and "CPB04" in FIGS. 15A-5D are not described in the specification. In this connection, Applicants are correcting the paragraph which begins on page 60 of the specification so that it now refers to "CPB01 to CPB04" rather than to "CPB0 to CPB4". Consequently, the designations in the drawings are now described in the specification.

In Paragraph 10 which begins on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-25 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over certain claims of co-pending application 09/487,503. In response, Applicants are enclosing a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to Application No. 09/487,503 so as to obviate this rejection.

In Paragraph 12 on page 8 of the Office Action, claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Adobe reference. In response, Applicants are canceling claim 13.

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In conclusion, claims 1-12 and 14-25 should now be allowable for the reasons discussed above. Therefore, entry of the amendment under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 as placing the application in condition for allowance or alternatively in better form for appeal, and reconsideration and allowance in view thereof, are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6846 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: July 21, 2004

By: 

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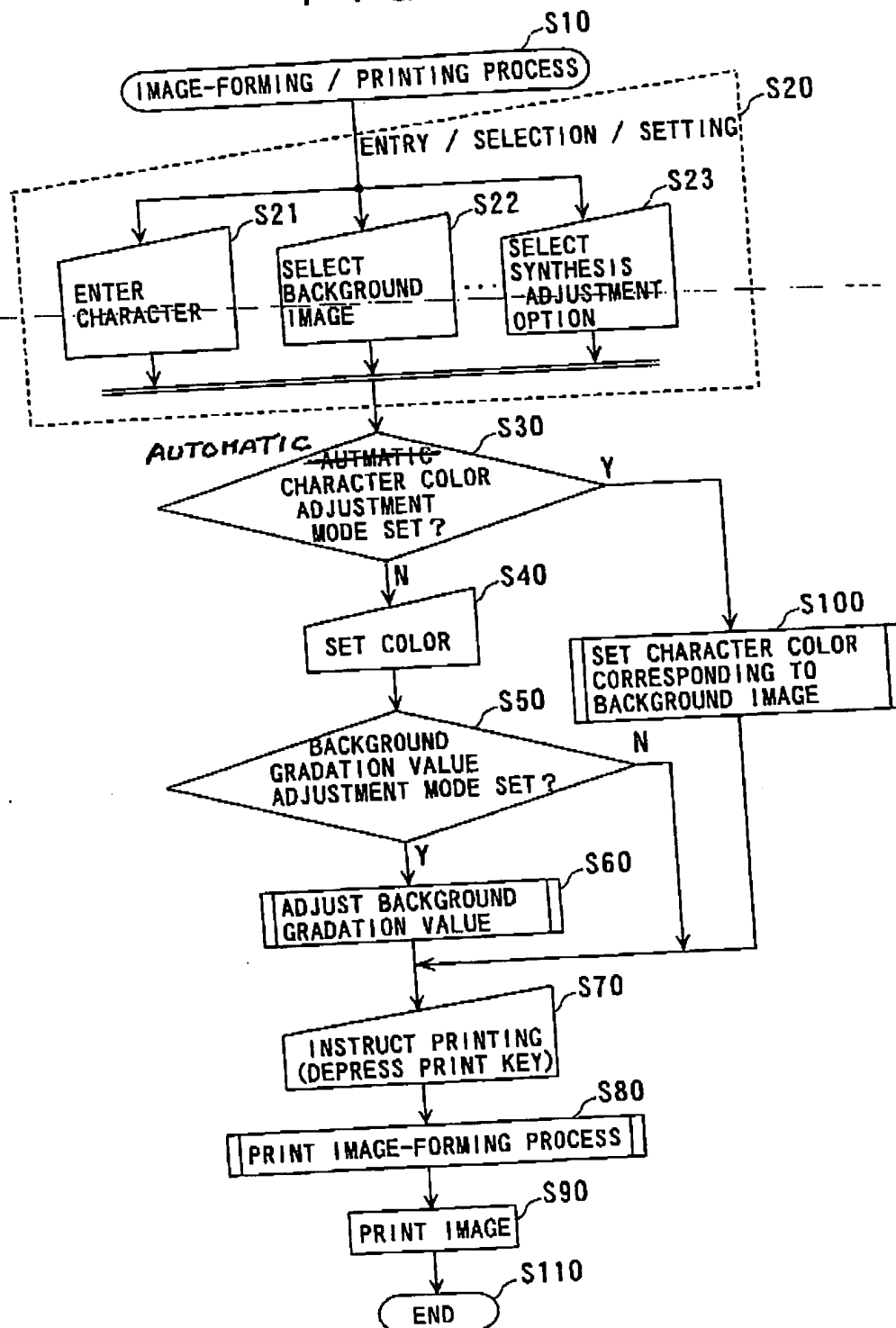
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IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND DEVICE

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FIG. 3



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IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND DEVICE

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FIG. 4

INTERRUPT BY PRINT KEY

